

Rich. That would be tenne dayes wonder at the least.
Clarence. That's a day longer then a Wonder lasts.
Rich. By so much is the Wonder in extremes.
King. Well, least on Brothers: I can tell you both,
 Her suit is graunted for her Husbands Lands.

Enter a Noble man.

Nob. My gracious Lord, *Henry* your Foe is taken,
 And brought your Prisoner to your Pallace Gate.

King. See that he be convey'd vnto the Tower:
 And goe wee Brothers to the man that tooke him,
 To question of his apprehension.
 Widow goe you along: Lords vse her honourable.

Exeunt.

Manet Richard.

Rich. I, *Edward* will vse Women honourably:
 Would he were wasted, Marrow, Bones, and all,
 That from his Loynes no hopefull Branch may spring,
 To crosse me from the Golden time I looke for:
 And yet, betweene my Soules desire, and me,
 The lustfull *Edward*'s Title buried,
 Is *Clarence*, *Henry*, and his Sonne young *Edward*,
 And all the vnlook'd-for Issue of their Bodies,
 To take their Roomes, ere I can place my selfe:
 A cold premeditation for my purpose.
 Why then I doe but dreame on Soueraigntie,
 Like one that stands vpon a Promontorie,
 And spies a farre-off shore, where hee would tread,
 Wishing his foot were equall with his eye,
 And chides the Sea, that sunders him from thence,
 Saying, hee'le lade it dry, to haue his way:
 So doe I wish the Crowne, being so farre off,
 And so I chide the meanes that keepe me from it,
 And so (I say) Ile cut the Causes off,
 Flattering me with impossibilities:
 My Eyes too quicke, my Heart o're-weenes too much,
 Vlesse my Hand and Strength could equall them.
 Well, say there is no Kingdome then for *Richard*:
 What other Pleasure can the World afford?
 Ile make my Heauen in a Ladies Lappe,
 And decke my Body in gay Ornaments,
 And 'witch sweet Ladies with my Words and Lookes.
 Oh miserable Thought! and more vnlikely,
 Then to accomplish twentie Golden Crownes.
 Why Loue forswore me in my Mothers Wombe:
 And for I should not deale in her soft Lawes,
 Shee did corrupt fraile Nature with some Bribe,
 To shrinke mine Arme vp like a wither'd Shrub,
 To make an enuious Mountaine on my Back,
 Where sits Deformitie to mocke my Body;
 To shape my Legges of an vnequall size,
 To disproportion me in euery part:
 Like to a Chaos, or an vnlick'd Beare-whelp,
 That carries no impression like the Damme.
 And am I then a man to be belou'd?
 Oh monstrous fault, to harbour such a thought.
 Then since this Earth affords no Ioy to me,
 But to command, to check, to o're-beare such,
 As are of better Person then my selfe:
 Ile make my Heauen, to dreame vpon the Crowne,
 And whiles I liue, account this World but Hell,
 Vntill my mis-shap'd Trunke, that beares this Head,
 Be round impaled with a glorious Crowne.
 And yet I know not how to get the Crowne,
 For many Liues stand betweene me and home:

And I, like one lost in a Thornie Wood,
 That rents the Thornes, and is rent with the Thornes,
 Seeking a way, and straying from the way,
 Not knowing how to finde the open Ayre,
 But toying desperately to finde it out,
 Torment my selfe, to catch the English Crowne:
 And from that torment I will free my selfe,
 Or hew my way out with a bloody Axe.
 Why I can smile, and murder whiles I smile,
 And cry, Content, to that which grieues my Heart,
 And wet my Cheekes with artificiall Teares,
 And frame my Face to all occasions.
 Ile drowne more Saylers then the Mermaid shall,
 Ile slay more ganders then the Basiliske,
 Ile play the Orator as well as *Nestor*,
 Deceiue more Slyly then *Vissers* could,
 And like a *Synon*, take another Troy.
 I can adde Colours to the Camellion,
 Change shapes with *Proteus*, for aduantages,
 And fet the murderous *Machewill* to Schoole.
 Can I doe this, and cannot get a Crowne?
 Tut, were it farther off, Ile plucke it downe. *Exit.*

Flourish.

*Enter Lewis the French King, his Sister Bona, his
 Admirall, call'd Bourbon: Prince Edward,
 Queene Margaret, and the Earle of Oxford.
 Lewis sits, and riseth vp againe.*

Lewis. Faire Queene of England, worthy *Margaret*,
 Sit downe with vs: it ill befits thy State,
 And Birth, that thou should'st stand, while *Lewis* doth sit.

Marg. No, mightie King of France: now *Margaret*
 Must strike her sayle, and learne a while to serue,
 Where Kings command. I was (I must confesse)
 Great Albions Queene, in former Golden dayes:
 But now mischance hath trod my Title downe,
 And with dishonor layd me on the ground,
 Where I must take like Seat vnto my fortune,
 And to my humble Seat conforme my selfe.

Lewis. Why say, faire Queene, whence springs this
 deepe despaire?

Marg. From such a cause, as fills mine eyes with teares,
 And stops my tongue, while heart is drown'd in cares.

Lewis. What ere it be, be thou still like thy selfe,
 And sit thee by our side. *Sits her by him.*
 Yeeld not thy necke to Fortunes yoke,
 But let thy dauntlesse minde still ride in triumph,
 Ouer all mischance.

Be plaine, Queene *Margaret*, and tell thy griefe,
 It shall be eas'd, if France can yeeld reliefe.

Marg. Those gracious words
 Reuiue my drooping thoughts,
 And giue my tongue, ty'd forrowes leaue to speake.
 Now therefore be it knowne to Noble *Lewis*,
 That *Henry*, sole possessor of my Loue,
 Is, of a King, become a banisht man,
 And forc'd to liue in Scotland a Forlorne;
 While proud ambitious *Edward*, Duke of *York*,
 Vsurpes the Regall Title, and the Seat
 Of Englands true anoynted lawfull King.
 This is the cause that I, poore *Margaret*,
 With this my Sonne, Prince *Edward*, *Henries* Heire,
 Am come to craue thy iust and lawfull ayde:
 And if thou faile vs, all our hope is doone.
 Scotland hath will to helpe, but cannot helpe:

Out.

Our People, and our Peeres, are both mis-led,
 Our Treasure seiz'd, our Souldiors put to flight,
 And (as thou seest) our selues in heauie plight.

Lewis. Renowned Queene,
 With patience calme the Storme,
 While we bethinke a meanes to breake it off.

Marg. The more wee stay, the stronger growes our
 Foe.

Lewis. The more I stay, the more Ile succour thee.
Marg. O, but impatience waiteth on true sorrow.
 And see where comes the breeder of my sorrow.

Enter Warwick.

Lewis. What's hee approacheth boldly to our pre-
 sence?

Marg. Our Earle of *Warwicke*, *Edward*'s greatest
 Friend.

Lewis. Welcome braue *Warwicke*, what brings thee
 to France? *Hee descends. Shee riseth.*

Marg. I now begins a second Storme to rise,
 For this is hee that moues both Winde and Tyde.

Warw. From worthy *Edward*, King of Albion,
 My Lord and Soueraigne, and thy vowed Friend,
 I come (in Kindnesse, and vnfayned Loue)
 First, to doe greetings to thy Royall Person,
 And then to craue a League of Amicie:
 And lastly, to confirme that Amicie
 With Nuptiall Knot, if thou vouchsafe to graunt
 That vertuous Lady *Bona*, thy faire Sister,
 To Englands King, in lawfull Marriage.

Marg. If that goe forward, *Henries* hope is doone.

Warw. And gracious Madame, *Speaking to Bona.*
 In our Kings behalfe,

I am commanded, with your leaue and fauor,
 Humbly to kisse your Hand, and with my Tongue
 To tell the passion of my Soueraignes Heart;
 Where Fame, late entering at his heedfull Eares,
 Hath plac'd thy Beauties Image, and thy Vertue.

Marg. King *Lewis*, and Lady *Bona*, heare me speake,
 Before you answer *Warwicke*. His demand
 Springs not from *Edward*'s well-meant honest Loue,
 But from Deceit, bred by Necessitie:
 For how can Tyrants safely gouerne home,
 Vlesse abroad they purchase great allyance?
 To proue him Tyrant, this reason may suffice,
 That *Henry* liueth still: but were hee dead,
 Yet here Prince *Edward* stands, King *Henries* Sonne.
 Looke therefore *Lewis*, that by this League and Mariage
 Thou draw not on thy Danger, and Dis-honor:
 For though Vsurers sway the rule a while,
 Yet Heaues are iust, and Time suppresseth Wrongs.

Warw. Inuious *Margaret*.

Edw. And why not Queene?

Warw. Because thy Father *Henry* did vsurpe,
 And thou no more art Prince, then shee is Queene.

Oxf. Then *Warwicke* disanulls great *John* of Gaunt,
 Which did subdue the greatest part of Spaine;
 And after *John* of Gaunt, *Henry* the Fourth,
 Whose Wildome was a Mirror to the wisest:
 And after that wise Prince, *Henry* the Fifth,
 Who by his Prowesse conquered all France:
 From these, our *Henry* lineally descends.

Warw. *Oxford*, how haps it in this smooth discourse,
 You told not, how *Henry* the Sixth hath lost
 All that, which *Henry* the Fifth had gotten:

Me thinks these Peeres of France should smile at that,
 But for the rest: you tell a Pedigree
 Of threescore and two yeeres, a silly time
 To make prescription for a Kingdome worth.

Oxf. Why *Warwicke*, canst thou speake against thy Liege,
 Whom thou obey'd'st thirtie and six yeeres,
 And not bewray thy Treason with a Blush?

Warw. Can *Oxford*, that did euer fence the right,
 Now buckler Falsehood with a Pedigree?
 For shame leaue *Henry*, and call *Edward* King.

Oxf. Call him my King, by whose iniurious doome
 My elder Brother, the Lord *Aubrey Vere*

Was done to death? and more then so, my Father,
 Euen in the downe-fall of his mellow'd yeeres,

When Nature brought him to the doore of Death?
 No *Warwicke*, no: while Life vpholds this Arme,

This Arme vpholds the House of Lancaster.

Warw. And I the House of *York*.

Lewis. Queene *Margaret*, Prince *Edward*, and *Oxford*,
 Vouchsafe at our request, to stand aside,
 While I vse further conference with *Warwicke*.

They stand aloofe.

Marg. Heaues graunt, that *Warwicke*'s wordes be-
 witch him not.

Lew. Now *Warwicke*, tell me euen vpon thy conscience
 Is *Edward* your true King? for I were loth

To linke with him, that were not lawfull chosen.

Warw. Thereon I pawne my Credit, and mine Ho-
 nor.

Lewis. But is hee gracious in the Peoples eye?

Warw. The more, that *Henry* was vnfortunate.

Lewis. Then further: all dissembling set aside,
 Tell me for truth, the measure of his Loue

Vnto our Sister *Bona*.

War. Such it seemes,

As may be seeme a Monarch like himselfe.

My selfe haue often heard him say, and sweare,

That this his Loue was an externall Plant,

Whereof the Root was fixt in Vertues ground,

The Leaues and Fruit maintain'd with Beauties Sunne,

Exempt from Enuy, but not from Disdaine,

Vnlesse the Lady *Bona* quit his paine.

Lewis. Now Sister, let vs heare your firme resolute.

Bona. Your graunt, or your denyall, shall be mine.

Yet I confesse, that often ere this day, *Speaks to War.*

When I haue heard your Kings desert recounted,

Mine eare hath tempted iudgement to desire.

Lewis. Then *Warwicke*, thus:

Our Sister shall be *Edward*'s.

And now forthwith shall Articles be drawne,

Touching the Ioynture that your King must make,

Which with her Dowrie shall be counter-poys'd:

Draw neere, Queene *Margaret*, and be a witnesse,

That *Bona* shall be Wife to the English King.

Pr. Edw. To *Edward*, but not to the English King.

Marg. Deceitfull *Warwicke*, it was thy deuice,

By this alliance to make void my suit:

Before thy comming, *Lewis* was *Henries* friend.

Lewis. And still is friend to him, and *Margaret*.

But if your Title to the Crowne be weake,

As may appeare by *Edward*'s good successe:

Then 'tis but reason, that I be releas'd

From giuing ayde, which late I promised.

Yet shall you haue all kindnesse at my hand,

That your Estate requires, and mine can yeeld.

Warw. *Henry* now liues in Scotland, at his ease;

Where